
EXAMINER'S PROPOSED AMENDMENT

DRAFT

1. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicants, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. §1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview on XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX with MXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX, Applicants' Representative.

In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims in the instant application.

1-9 (Cancelled)

10. (currently amended) A method for removing reactivity to a limulus reagent of lipoarabinomannan in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample to a Limulus reagent, said method comprising:

~~which comprises~~ allowing one or more substance(s) to coexist with said sample, wherein said substance is selected from the group consisting of: ~~selected from the following group to coexist with the sample:~~

a surfactant, an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, a (1→3)-β-glucan, a carboxymethylated (1→3)-β-glucan, a factor G activation inhibitor, a strong alkaline substance, polymyxin B, colistin, concanavalin A, histidine and histamine;

whereby said lipoarabinomannan reactivity in said sample is removed.

11. (currently amended) A method for measuring an endotoxin in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample, comprising:

~~which comprises~~ removing reactivity of lipoarabinomannan to a Limulus reagent by the method of claim 10[.];

ontacting said sample with a Limulus reagent[.]; and

detecting or measuring the Limulus reaction induced by said endotoxin.

12. (original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

13. (Previously presented) A method for detecting an endotoxin-related disease, which comprises detecting or measuring an endotoxin in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample according to the method of claim 11.

14-23 (Cancelled).

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Kailash C. Srivastava whose telephone number is (571) 272-0923. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. (Eastern Standard or Daylight Savings Time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Jon Weber can be reached at (571)-272-0925 Monday through Thursday 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (i.e., PAIR) system. Status information for the published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (i.e., EBC) at: (866)-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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